

We claim:

1. A method of playing a poker game including the steps of:
dealing hands to players;
5 during one or more betting rounds, requiring each player to check, call, raise or fold within a predetermined time;
for each player, indicating incremental elapsing of at least a portion of the predetermined time;
if a player does not check, call, raise or fold within the predetermined time:
10 holding the player to a check if no bet exists in the betting round; or
declaring the player's hand dead if a bet exists in the betting round; and
after all betting rounds are completed, determining betting by ranking remaining hands;
wherein the predetermined time is less than 60 seconds.
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2. The method of playing a poker game according to claim 1, wherein the poker game is Texas Hold'em that includes four betting rounds per hand of play.
3. The method of playing a poker game according to claim 1, wherein the
20 predetermined time is up to or around 15 seconds and the elapsing of the last 10 seconds are indicated in increments of seconds.
4. The method of playing a poker game according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein incremental elapsing of at least a portion of the predetermined time for individual
25 players is indicated by a warning, said warning including at least one of an audible and a visual alert.
5. The method of playing a poker game according to claim 4, wherein said warning
30 is audible counting.

6. The method of playing a poker game according to claim 4, wherein said warning is a visual alert including a plurality of lights, wherein each of said lights corresponds to a time increment.

5 7. The method of playing a poker game according to claim 6, wherein the lights are red LEDs.

8. The method according to either one of claims 6 and 7, wherein said lights are arranged to form a pathway associated with each said individual player.

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9. The method according to any one of claims 1 to 8, including the further steps of:
applying a betting limit pre-flop, said betting limit corresponding to a predetermined pot limit; and
removing said betting limit post-flop.

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10. A playing area for a poker game including:
at least one dealer station, a plurality of player stations and a corresponding plurality of pathways, each pathway extending from a central portion of the playing area towards a player station;

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wherein each pathway includes a plurality of consecutive elements that individually indicate incremental elapsing of at least a portion of a predetermined time in which each player is required to check, call, raise or fold during one or more betting rounds of the poker game;

wherein said predetermined time is less than 60 seconds.

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11. A playing area for a poker game according to claim 10, wherein the poker game is Texas Hold'em.

12. A playing area for a poker game according to either one of claims 10 and 11,
30 further including a clock for determining the predetermined time.

13. A playing area for a poker game according to any one of claims 10 to 12, wherein the playing area is included in a gaming table.

14. A playing area for a poker game according to any one claims 10 to 13, wherein
5 the playing area is represented in a video format for a video representation of a poker game.

15. A playing area for a poker game according to claim 14, wherein the video format is displayed in a video broadcast.

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16. A playing area for a poker game according to claim 14, wherein the video format is displayed by a computer or over a network of computers.

17. A method of playing a poker game substantially as hereinbefore described with
15 reference to the accompanying drawings.

18. A playing area for a poker game substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.